

SCRIPT

Investiture Ceremony

2:30 p.m., November 14, 2014
Dunham Student Activity Center

GATHERING

Students who will carry banners will gather at 1:00 p.m. in the back of the gym, where Randi Wilson will have additional stoles and instruct them on the order and placement of the banners. The three students with college banners will go in first, in alphabetical order, followed by the next five in alphabetical order and then the final five in reverse alphabetical order.

The handbells and brass quartet will be on the right of the stage on the floor. By 1:00 p.m. they should be gathering, setting up bells, and arranging their chairs. The area will contain the handbell choir tables and bells, the brass choir, and music stands. The handbell choir will have 13 chairs behind their tables. The brass choir will remain seated in their performance chairs during the program. Next to the bell tables there will be seating for Burnell Hackman, director. (19 chairs in all.)

Singers will gather by 1:30. Michelle Palumbo will prompt them to seats. The singers' stage will be lower and on the left of the main stage. Immediately in front of this stage will be seating for those who will come to microphone to sing:

Michelle Palumbo, soloist
Jon Pressimone, soloist
John Fletcher
Claire Gunn
Shannon Lefler
Isabella Liu
20 (approx.) Sisters of St. Joseph

The Board of Trustees and the Platform Party and delegates from other institutions should report to the Lobby of East Hall between 1:00 and 1:30 p.m. A coat check will be available in East 120 for wraps and other belongings. The President will meet and greet these guests in East 115 (President's Reception Room), between 1:00 and 1:30 p.m. Delegates will be directed to East 106 or 107 (depending on institutional founding date) to begin robing by 1:30. Sherre Waggoner will assist them in lining up. The Board of Trustees will be directed to East 101 to begin robing by 1:30. Heather Norton will assist them in lining up. The Platform Party will be robing in East 103. Line-up for the procession will occur in the hallway outside robing rooms between 2:00 and 2:15 p.m. Gary Zack will assist them in lining up.

Faculty will gather (already robed) in the Chapel by 1:45 p.m. and will be lined up to march in by 2:15 p.m. Sharon McCaslin will arrange faculty in a double file line and lead them down the east stair of Ryan to follow the delegates into the gym.

ORDER OF PROCESSION

1. Faculty Marshal – Mary Abkemeier

2. Delegates from learned societies (double file)
3. Delegates from institutions of higher education, in order of founding (double file)
4. Faculty (double file)
5. Administration (continue faculty double file)
6. Board of Trustees (double file)
7. Platform Party (single file):
 - Dr. Gary Zack
 - Mayor Harold Sanger
 - Michael McMillan
 - Karen Gedera
 - Joan Falk
 - Christina Anderson
 - Danielle Ader
 - Mary Asaro
 - Elizabeth Rayhel
 - Sr. Rita Marie Schmitz
 - Imam Muhamed Hasic
 - Rabbi Dale Schreiber
 - Rev. Glenn Miller
 - Archbishop Robert Carlson
 - Gary Krosch
 - Cathy Pressimone
 - Dr. J. Michael Pressimone

The Marshal, delegates, faculty, board, and platform party will process in from the south entrance to Mabee gym, starting with the processional music at 2:30 p.m.

1. **2:00 p.m.** Musical Prelude starts with *Trumpet Tune and Ayre* by brass (following times approximate)
 - 2:04 p.m. *Rondo Passacaglia* by handbells
 - 2:08 p.m. *Prelude to Te Deum* by brass
 - 2:12 p.m. *Personent Hodie* by handbells
 - 2:16 p.m. *God of Grace and God of Glory* by brass
 - 2:20 p.m. *Prayer* by handbells
2. **2:20 p.m.** The three students representing colleges process in, carrying their banners, followed by the ten students representing the departments. The students with college banners continue up on the stage and place their banners in their holders. The next five students turn left at the stage and place their banners in order behind the singers stage. The last five students turn right at the stage and place their banners behind the handbell tables. After placing the banners all students return to their assigned seating in the rear of the gym.

At the end of the ceremony, they will be available to direct guests to the three reception areas.

By 2:20, the various parts of the Procession should be arriving outside of Mabee Gym, in preparation for the Procession.

2:23 p.m. *Trumpet Voluntary* by brass

2:27 p.m. *Dorian Dance* by handbells

3. **2:30 p.m. *Processional*** by both handbells and brass

Procession of Marshal, delegates (led by Sherre Waggoner), faculty and administration (led by Sharon McCaslin), and Board (led by Heather Norton) walk in and are seated in their special seating sections. All of these parties march in two by two, splitting apart and being seated in the front reserved section, with the aid of ushers. The Platform party continues up onto the main stage, led by Gary Zack, who will assist them in finding their seats. All are seated.

4. Gary Zack: (at podium, when music is finished)

Good afternoon. I am Gary Zack, Vice President of Finance and Administration. This afternoon I am serving as Master of Ceremonies for the Investiture Ceremony of J. Michael Pressimone, 14th President of Fontbonne University.

I will take this opportunity to remind you to please silence your cell phones or other electronic devices.

It is my pleasure to welcome all of you to this afternoon's ceremony. Fontbonne University extends its appreciation to those who are participating in this ceremony:

- **The students who carried in the banners representing Fontbonne's three colleges and ten academic departments,**
- **The musicians and singers,**
- **Fontbonne's faculty marshal,**

- **Delegates from learned societies and institutions of higher education,**
- **Fontbonne faculty, administrative staff, and Board of Trustees,**
- **And the platform party.**

I am delighted to extend a special welcome to

- **Our founders and sponsors, the Sisters of St. Joseph of Carondelet**
- **Former Fontbonne presidents and Board members,**
- **Fontbonne's professors emeriti,**
- **And, of course, to the members of Dr. Pressimone's immediate and extended family, their friends and colleagues.**

I now ask everyone to please stand for the National Anthem.

5. Michelle steps up onto the singers' stage while Gary is saying his welcome, so that she is ready to sing:
The National Anthem (Michelle Palumbo from the singers' stage)
6. Gary Zack: (at podium, after anthem)

Please be seated. In recognition of, and respect for, the varied faith traditions in the Fontbonne community, today's invocation will be shared by Imam Muhamed Hasic, Rabbi Dale Schreiber, Reverend Glenn Miller, and Archbishop Robert J. Carlson.

Gary returns to his seat. The four people presenting the invocation all rise and stand behind the podium and remain in that position, except when stepping forward to the microphone.

7. Imam Hasic: (at podium) gives one minute invocation in both Arabic and English
8. Rabbi Schreiber (at podium) gives one minute invocation in both Hebrew and English
9. Rev. Miller (at podium) gives one minute invocation

10. Archbishop Carlson (at podium) gives one minute invocation

When all four invocations are complete, this group file back to their chairs and are seated.

11. Jon Pressimone steps onto the singers' stage with his guitar just before or immediately after the invocation, so that he is ready to sing the Musical response: *I am Here* (Jon Pressimone, from the singers' stage). Jon sits down while Gary again approaches the podium.

12. Gary Zack: (at podium)

Supporting a new University President is truly a community endeavor. Representatives of various constituencies of the Fontbonne community, on campus and beyond, will extend their greetings and best wishes to Dr. Pressimone.

Gary sits down while speakers come to podium one by one, and then return to their places.

13. Harold J. Sanger: (at podium)

Good afternoon. I am Harold Sanger, Mayor of the City of Clayton, the proud county seat of St. Louis County. As Mayor of Clayton, I am pleased to welcome Dr. Pressimone and his family to Fontbonne University and to the Clayton community. May you lead this institution into a proud future. I look forward to continuing the collaboration and collegiality that have made us good neighbors for many years.

Mayor Sanger sits down and Michael McMillan comes to the podium.

14. Michael McMillan: (at podium)

Good afternoon. I am Michael McMillan, President of the Urban League of Metropolitan St. Louis. St. Louis is the home of many social service agencies which strive to build a better society for our

community. I welcome Dr. Pressimone into his leadership position at Fontbonne University. You have my best wishes and support as we continue the long-standing partnership between Fontbonne and the Urban League, with our shared commitment to serving the larger community through care, respect, dialogue, and advocacy.

Michael McMillan sits down while Gary Krosch comes to the podium.

15. Gary Krosch: (at podium)

I am Gary Krosch, Chair of the Fontbonne University Board of Trustees. The Board is the governing body of the University. One of its responsibilities and privilege's was the appointment of Dr. J. Michael Pressimone as Fontbonne's Fourteenth President. On behalf of the Board, I gladly welcome Dr. Pressimone to this critical leadership role. We look forward to building on the strength of the "Founding Spirit" and envisioning our "Inspired Future" together.

Gary Krosch sits down while Karen Gedera comes to the podium.

16. Karen Gedera: (at podium)

Good afternoon. I am Karen Gedera, Chair of the Council of Regents. The Council of Regents supports the University's fundraising goals and serves as a liaison between the University and the community. We on the Council offer our best wishes for Fontbonne's growth and prosperity under Dr. Pressimone's leadership. Welcome to Fontbonne!

Karen Gedera sits down while Joan Falk comes to the podium.

17. Joan Falk: (at podium)

Hello. I am Joan Falk, Chair of the Fontbonne Community Connection. The Fontbonne Community Connection, a giving circle of women who award financial support for faculty, staff and students' academic hopes and dreams, has already experienced Dr. Pressimone as a listener, a leader, a collaborator, a person of vision and a lover of excellence – whose heart beats in harmony with the mission of both Fontbonne University and the Sisters of St. Joseph. We welcome you and promise our enthusiastic support, as you lead Fontbonne to an ever brighter future.

Joan Falk sits down while Christina Anderson comes to the podium.

18. Christina Anderson: (at podium)

Good afternoon. I am Christina Anderson, President of the Fontbonne Alumni Association. Since the first graduating class in 1927, this University has produced many fine scholars who think critically, act ethically, and assume responsibility as citizens and leaders. On behalf of over 18,000 graduates in the eighty-seven years since our founding, I am happy to welcome Dr. Pressimone to our beloved Alma Mater.

Christina Anderson sits down while Danielle Ader comes to the podium.

19. Danielle Ader: (at podium)

Good afternoon. I am Danielle Ader, President of the Student Government Association. On behalf of the 1800 undergraduate and graduate students enrolled at Fontbonne University, I am honored and pleased to welcome Dr. Pressimone to our campus.

Danielle Ader sits down while Mary Asaro comes to the podium.

20. Mary Asaro: (at podium)

Hello, my name is Mary Asaro, and I currently serve as the Chair of the Fontbonne Staff Association. On behalf of the staff who do their part to help create, challenge and support the personal and professional learning experiences of our students; those who consistently seek to improve various policies, procedures and resources for the students; those that help to maintain the buildings and offices, and the grounds that we share; and those that contribute to everyone's safety and well-being; I am honored and delighted to welcome Dr. Pressimone to our University and our Fontbonne family.

Mary Asaro sits down while Libby Rayhel comes to the podium.

21. Libby Rayhel: (at podium)

Good afternoon. I am Dr. Elizabeth Rayhel, Chair of the Faculty Affairs Committee. On behalf of the Faculty of Fontbonne University, I am pleased and honored to welcome Dr. Pressimone as the Fourteenth President of this University. We welcome his leadership as we continue the Fontbonne tradition of scholarship and dedication to academic and educational excellence.

Libby Rayhel sits down.

22. Singers move up onto the stage during Libby's welcome, so they are ready to sing as she sits down: John Fletcher, Claire Gunn, Shannon Lefler, Isabella Liu : (on singers' stage, at microphone) *Sing Go Light Your World*

23. Gary Zack: (at podium)

Fontbonne University was founded by the Sisters of St. Joseph of Carondelet and continues to carry their charism into the future.

Sister Rita Marie Schmitz, representing the Province Leadership Team of the St. Louis Province of the Sisters of St. Joseph of Carondelet, will now present the Call to Service.

Gary Zack sits down.

24. Sr. Rita Schmitz: (at podium)

Dr. Pressimone, trustees, faculty, staff, students and friends of Fontbonne University, it is a genuine pleasure to be part of this historic occasion. Trustees, you have done extremely well in bringing a man of Michael Pressimone’s experience, preparation, ability and faithfulness to fill the presidency at this university. Faculty and students, you will soon learn, if you haven’t already, that Dr. Pressimone brings a love for God, family, service and education to each day. He brings a wisdom and enthusiasm to this office that inspires all of us to “learn more, be more”. Dr. Pressimone has chosen the theme “founding Spirit, inspired future” for this inauguration. What a fitting theme it is, for we are all standing on the shoulders of those leaders who have come before us.

The founding spirit of Fontbonne University traces its roots to the first 6 women who founded the Sisters of St. Joseph in Lepuy, France in 1650. They were mentored by a French Jesuit, Jean-Pierre Medaille, and from the beginning were dedicated to the Holy Trinity and the Holy Family. Thus the spirit of the founders was molded by the all-inclusive and perfect love of God and the zeal, fidelity and cordial charity of Jesus, Mary and Joseph.

This same spirit, led the Sisters to reorganize after the French revolution under the capable leadership of Mother St. John Fontbonne, whose name the university bears. And it was her enthusiasm for the missions in America and the generous and courageous love of those first 6 missionaries who came to America that are the foundation of Fontbonne's heritage today. In 1836 Bishop Joseph Rosati asked for sisters capable of teaching deaf individuals to come to St. Louis. The first sisters who came opened a school for children in the Carondelet village and the following year 2 sisters arrived to teach deaf children. Thus began the long tradition of the sisters, and later the teachers trained at Fontbonne, serving students with profound hearing loss and speech impediments.

In 1907 Sister Agnes Gonzaga Ryan and her council unanimously agreed that the president, Sr. Agnes Ryan, be authorized to purchase ground in the vicinity of St Louis for the purpose of erecting a college for girls. Sr. Agnes Gonzaga and her council in determining to found a college had inherited the spirit and courage of their predecessors. In 1908 the land on Wydown and Big Bend was purchased; the college began in 1923 at Carondelet with 9 faculty members and 9 students and moved to the present campus in 1925.

College classes moved to the present campus in 1925. Reflecting on the history of Fontbonne, Paul Reinert, SJ, said, "from the college's earliest days, administrators, faculty and staff have based programs and services on a series of enduring values which permeate everything they do. The Sisters of St. Joseph of

Carondelet, Fontbonne's founders, live by and teach the values of quality, respect, diversity, community, justice, service, faith and Catholic presence." These are the values that Fontbonne continues to live by.

And it is with these values in mind that I, Sister Rita Marie Schmitz, on behalf of the Sisters of St. Joseph of Carondelet, on behalf of every member of the Fontbonne university community call you, J Michael Pressimone, to continue the spirit of the founders and to lead Fontbonne University into the future with boldness and love.

We call you to serve a world in need with joy and humility.

We call you take risks, as did our Founders and Sisters and university forbears.

We call you to give with your whole heart.

We call you to listen for guidance from the Spirit of God.

We call you to serve as the fourteenth president of Fontbonne University with dedication, inspiration, commitment and courage.

And we the Community of Fontbonne University will support you in this endeavor. May the spirit of our Founders inspire each of us to meet the needs of the times in every generation and to be men and women committed to bringing about loving unity of neighbor with neighbor and loving unity of ourselves and the dear neighbor with God.

Sr. Rita returns to her seat and Cathy Pressimone comes to the podium.

25. Cathy Pressimone: (at podium)

Good afternoon. I am Cathy Pressimone, wife of Mike Pressimone. I was pleased when I was asked to introduce Mike today at his installation ceremony. After all, I've known him longer than anyone else here – except his father, Francis Pressimone. I imagined that I would be able to shine a little light on his complex and enigmatic psyche; offer insight into how he operates, unravel the mystery of his personality... But since he has been meeting and talking with members of the Fontbonne and St. Louis communities since July 1st, he has beaten me to it.

And if you have met Mike Pressimone, you will have discovered that the person that Fontbonne has chosen as the Fourteenth President is a man of ease and integrity. His complex and enigmatic psyche is anything but: he is warm, welcoming and sincere. If you have spoken to Mike, even for a few minutes, you will have perceived that he loves his family; is a man of faith who strives to discern the will of God daily; that he is articulate and passionate about higher education in general and Fontbonne University specifically. He has made great strides in the first four and a half months of his presidency, meeting as many people in this wonderful community as possible, severely diminishing the need for my introduction. So my introduction is merely a formalized way of bringing the optimistic, enthusiastic, passionate, and fun-loving Dr. J. Michael Pressimone to your honorable attention.

Pause for applause as Dr. Pressimone joins Cathy at the podium. He remains standing there until after his inaugural speech. Gary Krosch comes forward to the podium and Cathy sits down, after the applause is finished.

26. Gary Krosch: (at podium)

As Chair of the Board of Trustees of Fontbonne University, I hereby invest you with this medallion, symbol of the high office you hold at this University.

(He picks up the medallion from the shelf under the podium and places it over Dr. Pressimone's head.) **This medallion should be worn with your academic regalia during your tenure as President of Fontbonne. It is a visible reminder of the respect and trust that this University has placed in your integrity and commitment to meet the challenges and embrace the opportunities that lie ahead. Wear it with pride.**

Gary Krosch sits down. Dr. Pressimone remains standing by the podium while Archbishop Carlson comes to the podium.

27. Archbishop Carlson: (at podium) Special Blessing

Archbishop Carlson returns to his seat. Dr. Pressimone steps to the podium.

28. Mike Pressimone: (at podium) Gives inaugural address.

Returns to his seat.

30. Handbells and brass play the Alma Mater from their position at the side of the stage.

31. Gary Zack: (at podium)

Following the benediction, please remain in your seats until the platform party, delegates, faculty, and Board recess out. As you are leaving the building, listen for the Fontbonne Chapel bell, a gift from the Class of 1949. It will be rung fourteen times at intervals throughout the afternoon in honor of the inauguration of Dr. Pressimone. Please join the continuing celebration at the three campus receptions indicated in your program. See as many of the displays as you can to get a picture of the research and activities being conducted at Fontbonne University. Our student banner carriers, wearing stoles, will be at the exit and on the grounds to direct you if you are not familiar with our campus.

And now, please stand as Sister Rita Marie Schmitz leads the benediction.

Gary Zack steps back. Sr. Rita steps up to the podium. The Sisters who will sing *Sancte Joseph* step up to the microphone in front of the singers' stage.

32. Sr. Rita Marie Schmitz: (at podium)

Gracious and loving God, we have gathered here today to ask your blessing on President Dr. J Michael Pressimone the 14th President of Fontbonne University. Bless him with great wisdom, endless hope, a thirst for justice and intellectual curiosity as he leads this university. Bless him with patience for himself, his family and the

Fontbonne Community and bless us, that we may offer President Pressimone the same.

Bless him with great joy and happiness and health as he continues the mission of leadership in the Fontbonne community, assisting faculty, staff and students in their goal of becoming the men and women God has called them to be.

Bless the staff, faculty, trustees with a never wavering steadfastness and pursuit of the full mission of this university. Bless the students gathered here today with eager minds and bigger hearts for humanity. Bless the alumni of this university, those who have walked these grounds before us, who live the mission of Fontbonne to serve a world in need.

May everyone here and our Fontbonne community around the globe, go forth from this place with peace in our hearts and a burning desire to live the gospel and bring about the kingdom of God, a kingdom of peace and justice and love. Amen.

33. Sisters sing *Sancte Joseph*: (at microphone in front of singers' stage)

34. Recession. Music begins when singers are done. The platform party leads:

Faculty Marshal

Dr. Pressimone

Cathy Pressimone

Gary Krosch

Rest of platform party, first row, then second row, then Gary Zack last

Delegates

Faculty and administrative staff

Board

Remainder of audience

35. Recession Music: *Rondo Jubilate* by handbells and brass

36. Postlude Music: *Joyous Spirit* by handbells